

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on June 26, 2006 as well as the art cited. Claims 109 and 116 are canceled. Claims 110 – 115 are currently amended by this response. Claims 52-108 and 110-115 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claims 52-108 were allowed.

Claims 112-115 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for identifying these claims as allowable subject matter.

With regard to claims 112-115, these claims have been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim 109, and are now allowable. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 109-110 and 116 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being anticipated by Giancarlo, (U.S. Patent No. 4,768,190). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In order to expedite the issuance of those claims identified as having allowable subject matter by the Examiner, Applicant cancels claims 109 and 116 without prejudice and without any intent to surrender the scope of embodiments described within those claims. Applicant expressly reserves the right to assert the canceled claims, as well as additional claims, through the prosecution of continuing applications.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Serial No.: 09/723,013

Filing Date: 11/27/2000

Attorney Docket No. 100.046US02

Title: CIRCUITS AND METHODS FOR A RING NETWORK

With regards to claim 110, the claim has been amended to depend on and further define claim 112 and is therefore allowable for at least the reasons discussed above. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 111 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giancarlo (U.S. Patent No. 4,768,190) in view of Tojima (U.S. Patent No. 4,996,524). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

With regards to claim 111, the claim has been amended to depend on and further define claim 112 and is therefore allowable for at least the reasons discussed above. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

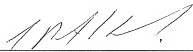
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 52-108 and 110-115 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 502432.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at 612-455-1687.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/16/2006



J. Patrick Kendrick
Reg. No. 53109

Attorneys for Applicant
Fogg and Associates, LLC
P.O. Box 581339
Minneapolis, MN 55458-1339
T – (612) 332-4720
F – (612) 332-4731